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Cy # 4

6 February 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Admiral Schuirmann

SUBJECT : Comparative Evaluation on Subs and ASW

1. This paper strikes me as being neither fish nor fowl. It is partly a numbers comparison, partly "state of the art", and partly a crude "netting" of our ASW vs. their subs. Moreover, there is not enough "comparing"; long stretches of text deal exclusively with US programs then long stretches with Soviet programs, with only tenuous links between the two. There is a great deal of repetition too.

2. However, I recognize that the problems cited above stem primarily from the inherent difficulties of doing a "comparative evaluation" in such broad and disparate fields, and should not be laid at the door of the drafters. In addition, many of these problems can be cured in the briefing itself, which should concentrate on the "comparative" aspects and avoid extended discussion of our own programs. I believe that we should review Admiral Weakley's briefing notes, as well as this background paper.

3. In this connection the general theme that comes through to me is that we are well ahead of the Soviets in state of the art, in subs and especially ASW but that their relatively less sophisticated systems are nonetheless a major threat, especially because of sheer numbers.

R. W. KOMER

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